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## China - Peoples Republic of

**Post:** Shenyang ATO

### Northeast China Is Now on the U.S. Flight Map

**Report Categories:**

Coffee  
Dairy and Products  
Dried Fruit  
Cotton and Products  
Fresh Fruit  
Grain and Feed  
Poultry and Products  
Stone Fruit  
Strawberries  
Tree Nuts  
Vegetables  
Livestock and Products  
Wood Products  
Oilseeds and Products  
Fishery Products  
Raisins

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### Report Highlights:

For the first time in a decade, direct flights to the United States from Northeastern China will be possible. Direct flights will reduce shipping times from several weeks to less than 14 hours, and will make possible for the first time U.S. direct exports of live seafood, fresh fruit, fresh cheese, geoduck clams, and premium meats to this region with 110 million consumers.

### Northeast China in Detail



Harbin Developments: In May of 2018, the Provincial Government of Heilongjiang signed a contract with the State of Alaska to open charter flights, including cargo flights, between Harbin, a city of 11 million and the capital of China's northernmost province, and Anchorage, Alaska. Steven Lo, executive director of Harbin's World Trade Center, whose delegation visited Anchorage in June, noted that his mission is to research opportunities with the intent on returning to Alaska often. "We are, first of all,

looking for trading opportunities, specifically in the seafood export, from Alaska to China, specifically from Anchorage to Harbin City.” He continued by noting that “From Harbin, we would like to distribute products all over China. Our first mission is to satisfy the local market.”

With these new charter flights, flight time between Anchorage and Harbin will be just a little over seven hours. With the creation of direct air cargo service between the Anchorage and Harbin, U.S. exporters of Alaskan King Crab, live lobster, fresh oysters, and numerous other high-value marine products may find new opportunities.

China’s ARJ21 Jetliner was instrumental in helping to support the creation of a Harbin regional air hub. The Commercial Aircraft Corp of China (COMAC) manufactures the ARJ21, which is China’s first domestically made regional passenger jetliner. The ARJ21 has a flying range of 2,225 to 3,700 kilometers and a seat capacity of 78 to 90 seats. It made its first flight on May 2, 2018 and will connect Harbin with Chengdu in Sichuan Province and Jinan in Shandong Province.

Last but not least, on August 23, 2018 the *Heilongjiang Daily* announced that China Southern Airlines will inaugurate passenger flights from Harbin to Anchorage, Los Angeles, and San Francisco sometime in 2019.

Shenyang Developments: Starting in December of 2018, direct passenger flights will begin between Shenyang, a city of seven million and the capital of Liaoning Province, and Los Angeles. The creation of these flights will make possible direct shipments of premium U.S. products including fresh apricots, blueberries, sweet and tart cherries, grapes, peaches, plums, raspberries, strawberries; fresh/chilled pork, beef, and lamb; fresh cheese; and, geoduck clams.

Shenyang Airport handled 17.34 million passengers in 2017, recording a year-on-year increase of 20.4 percent. International passengers accounted for 1.44 million, a figure surely to rise in 2018 and 2019. In 2017, Shenyang launched direct routes to Bali, Cairo, Danang, Milan, and Vladivostok, among other cities. In 2018, Shenyang added flights to Bangkok, Bologna and Frankfurt.

Shenyang is also improving its high-speed rail links which are increasing its regional commercial food capacity. Shenyang already has high-speed rail links with Harbin and Dalian, Northeast China’s largest port and wealthiest city. It takes two hours to travel from Shenyang to either of these two cities. In early 2019, Shenyang will achieve high speed rail linkage with Beijing, reducing travel time from five to just two hours.

China’s imports of U.S. agricultural, forest and fishery products through Dalian, Northeast China’s largest seaport and China’s eight largest, reached \$1.9 billion in 2017. Of these, U.S. fishery products achieved a record \$533 million. Dalian’s leading imports of U.S. seafood were frozen flat fish (\$162 million), frozen Pacific salmon (\$139 million), and frozen cod (\$100 million).